



RTCA in Hawaii

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. The National Park Service (NPS) staff provide technical assistance to community groups, city, county, tribal governments, and non-profit organizations working to enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation opportunities. We help local leaders plan and design trails and parks; conserve and improve access to natural areas; protect special places; and create recreation opportunities.

The RTCA program in Hawaii offers a wide range of services that can be tailored to meet the needs of an individual project. The NPS staff members are trained facilitators who encourage project leaders to build collaborative partnerships among governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. The program helps communities and groups define their vision, goals, and objectives; analyze issues and opportunities; and develop strategic action plans and time lines for projects. We do not provide financial assistance, but can help project partners identify and secure sources of funding and technical support.

Any community with committed project partners can apply for assistance. Believing the best plans are completed locally, the National Park Service will work with partners to encourage broad-based community participation in planning, designing, and implementing the projects we support.

In 2016, the National Park Service in Hawaii will work on a variety of projects including:

- **Hawaii Environmental Education and Stewardship** – The project goal is to foster and develop high quality environmental education by building relationships and organizational capacity through networking and professionalism to promote education about environmental issues in Hawaii. (Location: Windward Oahu, Hawaii)
- **Mālama Hulē'ia Restoration Plan** – The project goal is to eradicate 62-acres of mangrove from the watershed, replant the cleared riparian areas along the river with native or Polynesian plants, and restore the Alakoko fishpond through community stewardship and involvement. (Location: Lihue, Hawaii)
- **Oahu's North Shore Trails** – The project goal is to develop partnerships, design concepts, and identify funding for a connected trail system on the north shore of Oahu. (Location: Ka'ena Point to Kahuku, Hawaii)
- **Oahu's South Shore Trails** – The project goal is to provide a connected, contiguous multi use trail along Oahu's south shore where walkers, runners, cyclists, commuters, and visitors can all enjoy access to the beaches and parks. (Location: Diamond Head to Nanakuli, Hawaii)
- **Red Road Scenic Byway** – The project goal is to preserve and protect significant sites and intrinsic qualities while accommodating residents and visitors in the various recreational, cultural, and historical opportunities along the Red Road Scenic Byway. (Location: Puna, Hawaii)
- **Wailua River Blueway** – The project goal is to provide visitors to the park with a safe and informed trip to the Wailua River State Park. (Location: Wailua, Kauai)
- **West Maui Greenway** – The project goal is to provide a multi-use West Maui Trail that will supports a safe place to enjoy the outdoors for both residents and visitors. Phase I for the project includes a pilot project between Olowalu and Lahaina, Hawaii. (Location: Maui, Hawaii)



Upper reach of the Wailua River, Wailua Kauai. Photo: David Chui

Recent Success Story

Bikeshare Hawaii – The City of Honolulu, the Hawaii State Department of Health, Ulu Pono, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the National Park Service have worked together to form a nonprofit organization to bring bikeshare to Hawaii. The system will be rolled out in the summer of 2016.

The RTCA office in Honolulu , HI is part of the Pacific West Region. For more information about the RTCA program refer to: www.nps.gov/rtca, or for information about ongoing or potential RTCA projects in Hawaii contact:

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